

Building Liaison Capacity: Helping YOU to Help THEM



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Today's Agenda

- What is “Building Capacity?”
- Scaling Up Michigan's MV Program
- Overview of Current MI MV Program
- *Six Minute Sound Off*
- District Liaison Criteria in MV Law
- Rationale for MV Liaison Credential
- How We Can Help YOU to Help THEM
- Requirements for Certification
- Requirements for Credentialing

What IS “Building Capacity?”

Capacity building is...

- *An approach to development that focuses on understanding the obstacles that inhibit people/organizations from realizing their developmental goals while enhancing the abilities that will allow them to achieve measurable and sustainable results.*
- *The process by which individuals, groups, organizations, institutions and societies increase their abilities to perform core functions, solve problems, define and achieve objectives, and understand and deal with their development needs in a broad context and in a sustainable manner.*

Scaling Up MI's MV Programs

2008 – 09:

- Strengthen awareness of MV Law and LEA requirements

2009 – 11:

- Strengthen LEA capacity for MV data collection/reporting in MSDS
- Requirement for Regional Consortia for MV funding
- Recommended Criteria for Selection of MV Liaison

2011 – 14:

- MV Grant Coordinator Job Description
- MV Liaisons required to register in the Educational Entity Master

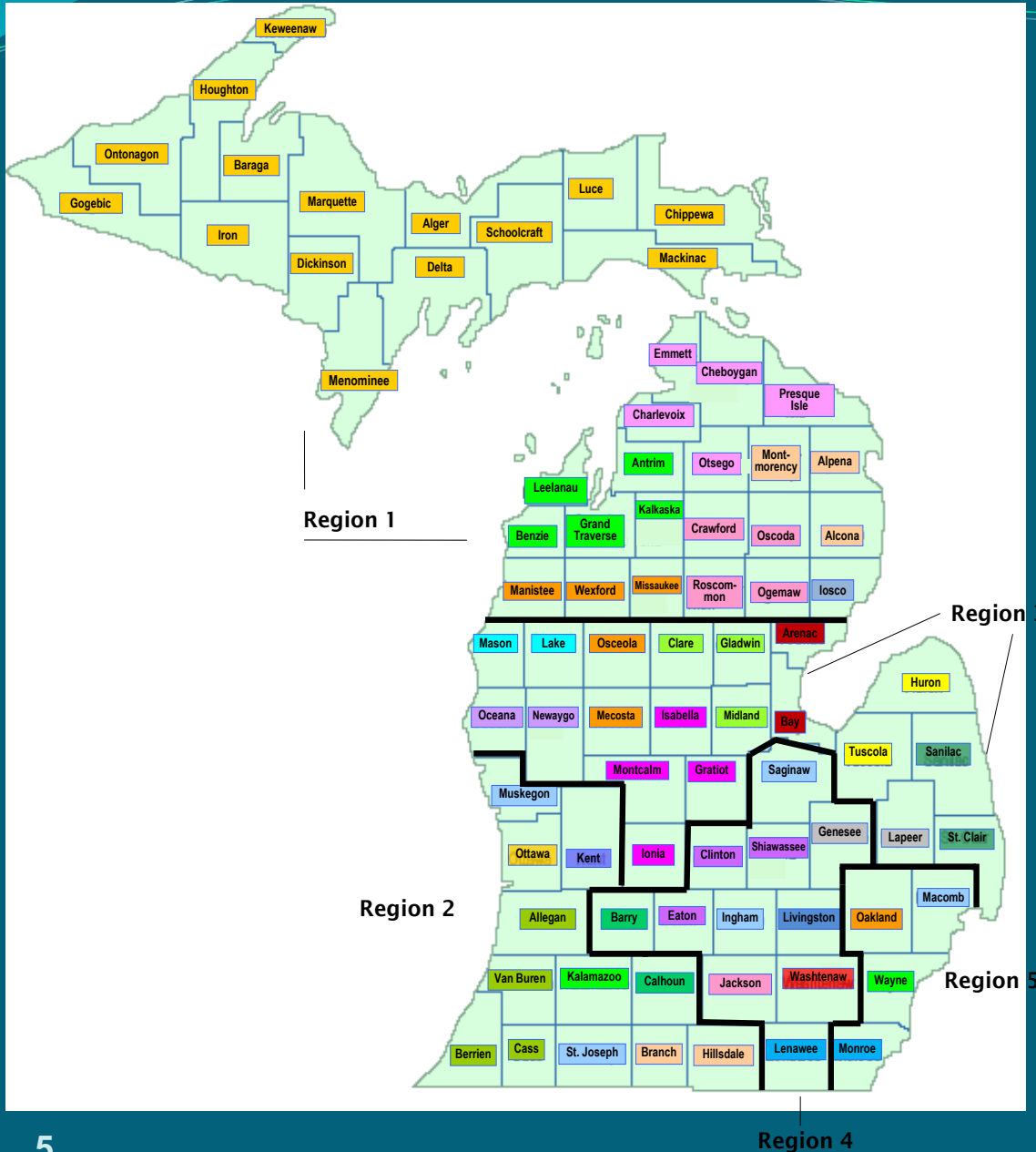
2014 – 17:

- Requirement for LEA documentation for Liaison selection - MDE criteria
- MDE Certification/Credential for MV Liaisons

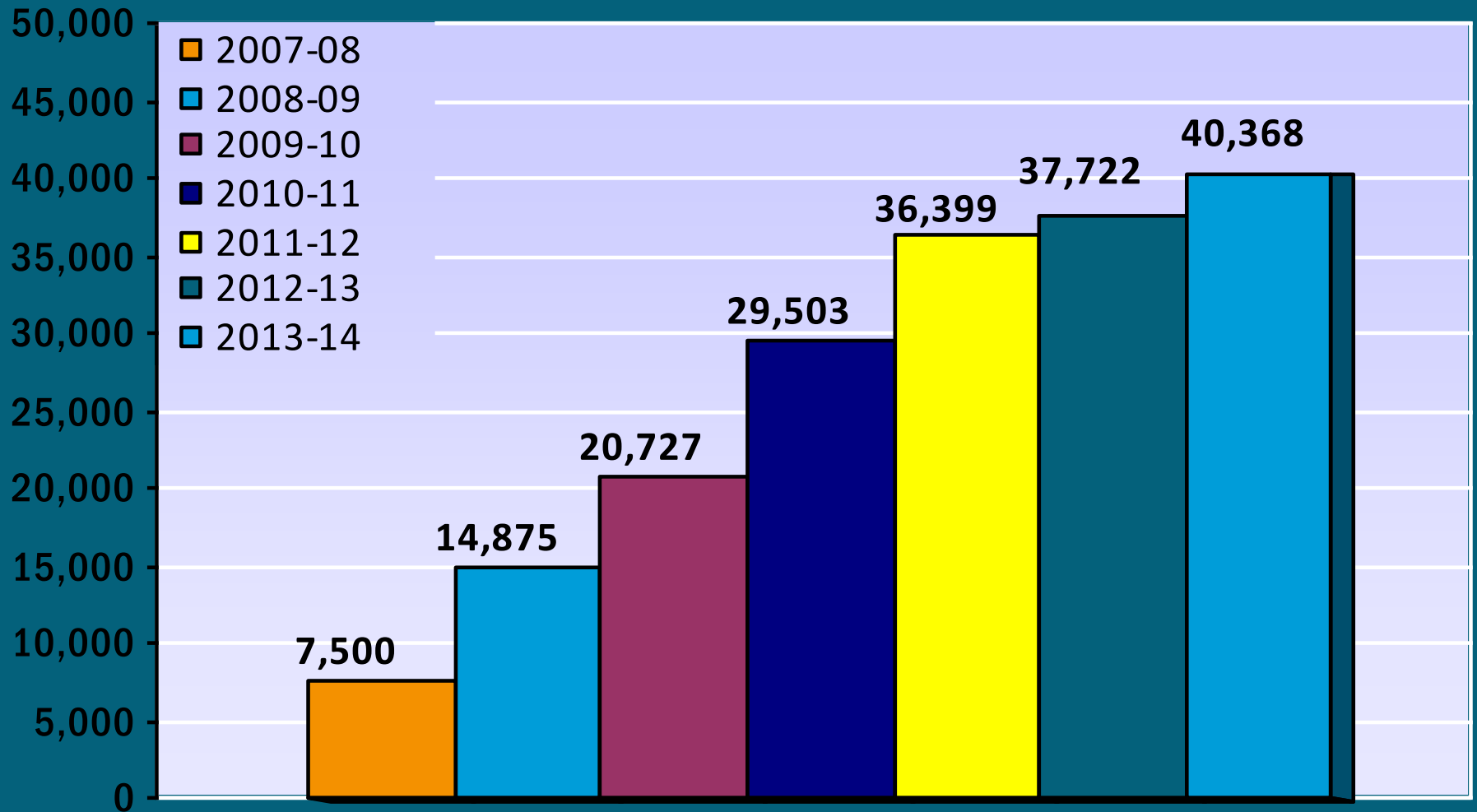
McKinney-Vento Grant Consortia

2014 - 2017

- ALL MI COUNTIES represented in 33 Homeless Education Grant Consortia
- Over 96% of 900+ MI LEAs participating in MV Grant Consortia
- Interactive map with grant contacts:
www.michigan.gov/homeless



Michigan Homeless Student Enrollment Data



Unduplicated at the State level

Includes preliminary 2013-14 District data

Why Do We Need to Build Capacity?

SIX MINUTE SOUND OFF:

- What are some obstacles MV Liaisons face in MI?
- What gets in YOUR way of
 - Performing Liaison functions in your district?
 - Solving MV problems in your district?
- What are YOUR objectives as a MV Liaison?
- How would YOU like to see the Michigan MV Liaison role be developed?

Parking Lot of your responses will be shared anonymously with MV Grant Coordinators to focus our work on this.

District Liaison Criteria in MV Law

MV law allows the SEA to establish criteria to assist LEAs in designating an appropriate staff person to carry out the duties in § 722 (g)(6)(A)

- MV Act, Section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) –
... Local educational agencies will designate an appropriate staff person, who may also be a coordinator for other Federal programs, as a local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youths, to carry out the duties described in paragraph (6)(A)

District Liaison Criteria in MV Law

continued

- USED MV Guidance, Items F-3 & F-4:

The State may issue guidance to LEAs that describes the factors for an LEA to consider in designating its liaison...

The type of person best suited to address the problems faced by homeless children and youth may vary according to the particular circumstances within a State or district.

- 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act

An LEA may use Title I-A funds to support up to 100% of a local liaison's salary, even if the Liaison has no other Title I duties.

District Liaison Criteria – YOUR IDEAS

- *What additional factors do YOU believe an LEA should consider in designating its liaison?*
- *What additional characteristics do YOU believe make a person best suited to address the problems faced by homeless children and in Michigan or in your district?*

Parking Lot of your responses will be shared anonymously with MV Grant Coordinators to focus our work on this.

Rational for Credentialing MV Liaisons

- Build MV Liaison capacity for effective functioning across the state's LEA MV Homeless Education Programs
- Support and enhance the significance of the Liaison role in schools, ISDs and at the MDE
- Support and elevate the Liaison role in the local community to leverage collaboration, coordination, fundraising, etc.

Rational for Credentialing MV Liaisons

continued

REDUCE LIAISON TURNOVER!

- Strengthen MV Program “talent pool”
 - Future MV Grant Coordinators
 - Future MV Monitors
 - Future State MV Coordinators
 - Future USED MV Coordinators

(Where do you think John McLaughlin at USED came from?!? ☺)

SO, HOW DO WE HELP YOU TO HELP THEM??



How We Can Help You to Help Them

Provide more & better training, technical assistance and support for Liaisons to:

- Improve Liaisons' ability to serve children, youth, and families experiencing homelessness
- Improve Liaisons' ability to inform & train school staff & administrators
- Improve Liaisons' ability to collaborate with community groups & organizations
- Increase Liaison visibility & credibility

District Liaison Credential – MI, 2015-17

The 2015-17 MV Homeless Education Grants were awarded based on the quality of the application and the documented need of the grant region, and were prioritized for Regional Consortium Projects that will...

- Meet or exceed the minimum MDE recommended criteria for District MV Homeless Education Liaisons (for training and capacity)

Minimum MDE Recommended Criteria, 2009 - 2014

Homeless Education Program Office
Special Populations Unit
Office of Field Services



Characteristics of Successful McKinney-Vento District Homeless Liaisons

Successful homeless education support programs depend on the relationships that homeless McKinney-Vento (M-V) liaisons develop in the community through a comprehensive network of providers. The staff person selected as your district liaison should be available and able to perform the following tasks:

- Facilitate the educational continuity of homeless students through immediate enrollment.
- Monitor attendance and report problems to the M-V Grant Coordinator.
- Meet with the M-V Grant Coordinator and parents to resolve attendance issues.
- Maintain accurate, current, and complete records of your district's homeless students and all services provided to each one.
- Meet and maintain contact with representatives of state and community agencies, organizations, and groups who work with low-income and homeless families and youth to coordinate, collaborate, and plan for the M-V Homeless Education Program in your district, region, or consortium.
- Attend state professional development conference(s) for homeless liaisons, as well as regional training sessions and meetings for the grant consortia.
- Distribute various items to students and/or families identified as experiencing homelessness within your district. These items may be provided by the grant and your own district.
- Stay current on procedures and referral information for services available to low-income and homeless families within the city/community and county (as well as the State of Michigan).
- Maintain contact with building-level homeless contacts and the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Grant Coordinator in order to identify students at risk of becoming homeless, as well as those who are experiencing homelessness, communicate the needs of these students, report on outcomes of homeless students served, and report students in the state student database.

In addition, when selecting the staff to serve as your district-level or building-level homeless contact, you should consider the following personal and professional criteria:

- Ability to communicate professionally and effectively with children and parents/guardians in "crisis mode" in order to determine their status and their immediate and long-term needs
- Ability to provide positive, non-judgmental emotional support to homeless students and families during a traumatic time in their lives
- Ability to build a trusting relationship with homeless students and parents/guardians that goes beyond housing status and continues after a housing crisis is resolved
- Ability to communicate professionally, effectively and confidentially with other school staff (within your own or other districts or states) regarding the status and needs of homeless students and families (with appropriate parent and/or student permission)
- Ability to prioritize multiple demands effectively and organize effectively for prompt action
- Genuine concern and caring for children, youth, and families


*This document
has been on
the MDE
MV website
since 2008!*

Minimum MDE Recommended Criteria, 2009 - 2014

Examples from this document:

- Facilitate the educational continuity of homeless students through immediate enrollment
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**MICHIGAN**
Department of
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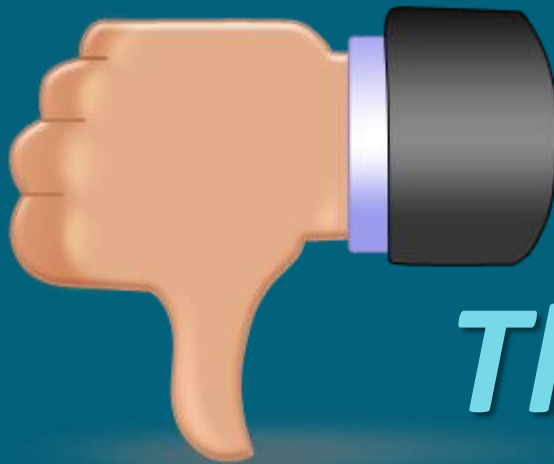
Requirements for Liaison Certification, 2015-17

- Meet all previous MDE criteria (2009 – 2014)
- Registered accurately by district in the MDE's online Educational Entity Master (EEM)
- Documented attendance at Regional Consortium trainings and meetings for 1 year
OR
- Documented attendance at all MV sessions at the MDE Special Populations Conference (copy of awarded SCECHs)

Requirements for Liaison Credential, 2015-17

- Provide documentation of completion of 4 or more NCHE online tutorials/webinars:
(Recorded or live; 30 – 75 minute formats)
 - Homeless with Homework: An Introduction to Homeless Education
 - Back to School Checklist for Local Homeless Education Liaisons
 - Serving Homeless Students Under Title I, Part A
 - MV 101: School Success and Stability Under the MV Act
 - MV 102: Support for School Success and Special Populations
 - Paving the Way to College for Students Experiencing Homelessness
 - NCHE Coffee Break: Understanding Doubled-Up

Thumbs Up?



Thumbs Down?

Michigan Department of Education Homeless Education Program Office

517-241-1162

Homeless Education Website

www.michigan.gov/homeless

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